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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

National Phase of PCT/FR00/01593

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Inventors: Monique Thual, Philippe Chanclou and Jean Lostec

Title: *A Method for the Collective Production of Microlenses at the End of a Set of Optical Fibres of the Fibre Ribbon Type*

Priority: French Application No. 99 07289; Filed 09 June 1999

Attorney Docket: 136.166

Customer No. 023907

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

DO/EO/US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is directed to a new U.S. application as identified above.

Please enter this preliminary amendment prior to calculating the fees.

Please substitute the attached specification, claims, and abstract (15 pages) and use the substitute application for examination purposes.

REMARKS

The substitute specification has been amended to insert headings and the Abstract has been amended to place it in conformance with preferred U.S. Patent Office practice. The substitute claims incorporate revisions made during international preliminary examination under Article 34, and are further amended to eliminate the multiple dependencies and the element numbers. A marked-up version of the changes made to the modified claims is attached and entitled *Version with Markings to Show Changes Made*.